UNITED
NATIONS

A

General Assembly

Distr.
GENERAL

A/50/643
30 November 1995
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: ARABIC

Fiftieth session
Agenda item 146

MEASURES TO ELIMINATE INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM

Report of the Sixth Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Walid OBEIDAT (Jordan)

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The item entitled "Measures to eliminate international terrorism" was included in the provisional agenda of the fiftieth session of the General Assembly in accordance with paragraph 6 of Assembly resolution 49/60 of 9 December 1994.

2. At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 22 September 1995, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include the item in its agenda and to allocate it to the Sixth Committee.

3. In connection with the item, the Sixth Committee had before it the report of the Secretary-General (A/50/372 and Add.1), which was introduced by the Under-Secretary-General for Legal Affairs, the Legal Counsel, at the 6th meeting, on 2 October 1995.

4. The following communications were also circulated under the item:

(a) Letters dated 23 January, 10 April, 24 July and 21 August 1995 from the Permanent Representative of Israel to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/50/67-S/1995/64, A/50/133-S/1995/282, A/50/305-S/1995/608 and A/50/359-S/1995/718);

(b) Letters dated 30 March and 26 July 1995 from the Permanent Representatives of France, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General transmitting the text of tripartite declarations concerning

the implementation of Security Council resolutions 731 (1992), 748 (1992) and 883 (1993) by the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya (A/50/128-S/1995/247 and A/50/315-S/1995/622);

(c) Letters dated 12 April and 20 September 1995 from the Permanent Representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/50/135-S/1995/293 and A/50/457-S/1995/811);

(d) Letter dated 28 April 1995 from the Permanent Observer of Palestine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/50/168-S/1995/341);

(e) Letter dated 8 June 1995 from the Permanent Representative of India to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General transmitting the Delhi Declaration, issued at the eighth meeting of the Heads of State or Government of the member countries of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation, held at Delhi from 2 to 4 May 1995 (A/50/215-S/1995/475);

(f) Letter dated 19 June 1995 from the Permanent Representative of Canada to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General transmitting the final documents of the summit meeting of seven major industrialized countries held at Halifax, Canada, from 15 to 17 June 1995 (A/50/254-S/1995/501);

(g) Letter dated 8 September 1995 from the Permanent Representative of Ecuador to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General transmitting the Final Declaration of the Ninth Meeting of Heads of State and Government of the Rio Group, held at Quito on 4 and 5 September 1995 (A/50/425-S/1995/787);

(h) Letter dated 19 October 1995 from the Permanent Representative of Argentina to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General transmitting the Bariloche Declaration, issued at the Fifth Ibero-American Conference of Heads of State and Government, held at San Carlos de Bariloche, Argentina, on 16 and 17 October 1995 (A/50/673);

(i) Letter dated 13 November 1995 from the Permanent Representative of Azerbaijan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/C.6/50/4);

(j) Letter dated 14 November 1995 from the Permanent Representative of New Zealand to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General transmitting the communiqué of the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting, held at Auckland, New Zealand, from 10 to 13 November 1995 (A/50/758).

5. The Committee considered the item at its 6th to 10th and 46th meetings, on 2, 3, 6 and 9 October and on 29 November 1995. The summary records of those meetings (A/C.6/50/SR.6-10 and 46) contain the views of the representatives who spoke during the consideration of the item.

II. CONSIDERATION OF DRAFT RESOLUTION A/C.6/50/L.12

6. At the 46th meeting, on 29 November, the Chairman of the Committee introduced a draft resolution proposed by him entitled "Measures to eliminate international terrorism" (A/C.6/50/L.12).

7. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.6/50/L.12 by consensus (see para. 9).

8. Statements were made by the representatives of Azerbaijan, the Syrian Arab Republic, Turkey, Pakistan, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya and Cuba (see A/C.6/50/SR.46).

III. RECOMMENDATION OF THE SIXTH COMMITTEE

9. The Sixth Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Measures to eliminate international terrorism

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 49/60 of 9 December 1994, by which it adopted the Declaration on Measures to Eliminate International Terrorism,

Recalling also that in the statement issued on 31 January 1992 by the President of the Security Council on the occasion of the meeting of the Security Council at the level of Heads of State and Government, 1/ the members of the Council expressed their deep concern over acts of international terrorism and emphasized the need for the international community to deal effectively with all such acts,

Recalling further the Declaration on the Occasion of the Fiftieth Anniversary of the United Nations, 2/

Deeply disturbed by the persistence of terrorist acts, which have taken place worldwide,

Stressing the need further to strengthen international cooperation between States and between international organizations and agencies, regional organizations and arrangements and the United Nations in order to prevent, combat and eliminate terrorism in all its forms and manifestations,

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1/ S/23500.

2/ Resolution 50/6.

Having examined the report of the Secretary-General of 24 August 1995, 3/

1. Strongly condemns all acts, methods and practices of terrorism as criminal and unjustifiable;

2. Reiterates that criminal acts intended or calculated to provoke a state of terror in the general public, a group of persons or particular persons for political purposes are in any circumstance unjustifiable, whatever the considerations of a political, philosophical, ideological, racial, ethnic, religious or any other nature that may be invoked to justify them; 4/

3. Reaffirms the Declaration on Measures to Eliminate International Terrorism annexed to resolution 49/60;

4. Urges all States to promote and implement effectively and in good faith the provisions of the Declaration in all its aspects;

5. Also urges all States to strengthen cooperation with one another to ensure that those who participate in terrorist activities, whatever the nature of their participation, find no safe haven anywhere;

6. Calls upon all States to take the necessary steps to implement their obligations under existing international conventions, to observe fully the principles of international law and to contribute to the further development of international law on this matter;

7. Recalls the role of the Security Council in combating international terrorism whenever it poses a threat to international peace and security;

8. Requests the Secretary-General to follow up closely the implementation of the Declaration and to submit an annual report on the implementation of paragraph 10 of the Declaration, taking into account the modalities set out in the report of the Secretary-General and the views expressed by States in the debate of the Sixth Committee during the fiftieth session of the General Assembly;

9. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-first session the item entitled "Measures to eliminate international terrorism".

3/ A/50/372 and Add.1.

4/ Paragraph 3 of the Declaration on Measures to Eliminate International Terrorism, contained in the annex to resolution 49/60.